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Prologue

[image]

(BTW, the Wings of Fire series is originally by Tui. T. Sutherland, I have just added on my own little bit. If you haven't read them yet, go check em out! The pictures also don't belong to me, I'm not that good at drawing lol =3)

Timeturner darted around a bend in the hallway, skidding along the cold floor. His large starry wings were tucked in close beside him; he wouldn't want to whack anybody in the busy halls today. He held his black tail a little above the floor and it swayed from side to side as he ran on. The second bell had just rung; time to select the winglets and he was late! The founders of the school had decided that they should choose the new winglets in the Prey Center instead of publishing them onto scrolls and handing them to the pupils. So now it made things MUCH harder for him.

'Hey watch it!' Time skidded to a stop in front of a young female Sandwing. He stared at her as she glared back.

'What do you want?' She snarled. He blinked, opening his mouth to reply.

'Er, no. I was just-' At that moment the third bell rang. Oh moons, he was so late! 'Um- Bye!' He cried as he bolted around a corner. His black talons hurt from scraping on the solid rock floor but he continued his sprint to not be late. How come She wasn't following? Wasn't She late too? He could still picture her shining, almost white scales... Her wings held majestically at just the right angle. Her glimmering golden eyes watching him as though she could see right through him, in a good way. Five minutes passed like five hours and eventually he burst in through the doors to the Prey Center, panting like a dying hippo. Fifty dragons sat before him, their colours all mismatched and all over the place; a Mudwing here, a Skywing there, one or two hybrids at the back...

It felt like all the eyes where on him as he entered. He told himself

they were **definitely** not staring at his drooping wings, his lopsided tail, the way he wasn't-

'Hello!' Timeturner jumped away from the voice as his thoughts were interrupted. A tiny Rainwing stood before him, her scales flashing all colours of the rainbow. He wanted to shield his eyes but decided not to; he couldn't be rude for his first impression.

'Hi?' He mumbled, shaking out his wings and sitting beside her. Up front, the Dragonets of Destiny were having an argument on who should do the speech so he took advantage of this to talk to the rainbow beside him.

'How late am I?' He questioned, tucking his wings close to his back and sitting up straight even though he wanted to collapse to the floor, spread his aching wings and have a nap. Yes. That nap sounded very good.

'Eh. Only a little, though I have a feeling that the winglets wont be chosen for a while yet.' The rainbow dragon replied, looking at the Destiny dragonets with raised eyebrows. 'Your a Nightwing, aren't you? I've never met a Nightwing before. Well, I have, just never a FUN Nightwing, ya know? Well, I hope your fun. Are you fun?' She questioned, her words racing out of her mouth like a stampede.

'Oh.' Time processed her questions slowly before continuing. 'Actually, I am a Nightwing Sandwing hybrid and you wouldn't have seen me before because I live with my mother and father on the border of the desert. Near here actually. And I'm not sure if I am 'fun', I'm probably just that dragon that wishes he was but honestly... isn't.' He finished, wrinkling his snout.

'Oh! So that's why you have that cool frill instead of spikes! Wait-' She jumped to her talons, maneuvered around the Skywing behind us and poked my tail.

'What?' I asked, turning my head to the side to watch her.

'I just thought you'd have a tail barb.' She replied, studying my tail like it might sprout wings and fly.

'Er- no. I only got three things from my father, the Sandwing: The frill, which is black anyways, my body shape, apparently, and these.' Timeturner tapped the tip of his snout where a small spike was embedded in his scales. Only Rainwings, Skywings and Sandwings ever got those. Yet here he was, lucky him.

'Oh. I think it looks awesome to look like a Sandwing but have black scales! I wish I was a hybrid. Maybe a Seawing/Rainwing? Ooh, yes! That would look AWESOME! And I could BREATHE under water and have those shiny glowy thingies!'

'You mean luminescent scales?' Time questioned, smiling at the fidgety rainbow.

'Ohhhhh; that's what their called.' She said, wrinkling her snout at me in some sort of happy grin. The Dragonets of Destiny up front had finally come to the conclusion that Glory, Queen Glory, should make the speech. I pricked my ears, turning back to them and away from my rainbow friend.

'Dragonets from all tribes! You have been chosen-' Queen Glory was cut off as Tsunami butted in:

'By US! THE DRAGONETS OF DESTINY!' The Seawing hollered, turning a lot of raised eyebrows.

'Tsunnaammmiiiii. You said I could do the SPEECH!' Glory whispered to her in a not so very whispery-ish way. 'I CHANGED my MIND.' Tsunami loudly whispered back.

'Hey, Sandwing-Nightwing, didn't catch your name.' I spun around. And there she was, tail barb and all. The Sandwing from the hallway! How long had she been sat there? I didn't even notice her!

'Oh.' Time felt his face burning so he looked away. 'Err, I'm T-Timeturner.' He managed to splutter eventually.

'Sweet, I'm Sandstorm but you can just call me Storm. Sorry bout in the hallway, I was just frustrated with something and I didn't mean to take it out on you.' She replied, those golden eyes glinting.

'Hey! Over here Time! Don't you want to know MY name?' The

Rainbow questioned, nudging him with her wing. She had turned a dark shade of green; what did that colour mean? Was it... jealousy?

'Um. Shure?' He said, keeping his wing and hers connected to keep the peace.

'I am. The amazing. The beautiful. No, FANTASTIC... APRICOT!' She cried, turning a shade of purple that I guessed meant pride. Storm laughed to herself, covering her face with one wing to shield it.

'Hey, is she crying? Actually, let her cry! SHE SHOULD CRY WHEN FACING ME, THE ALMIGHTY... APRICOT!' The Rainbow repeated, earning a snort from behind the pale yellow wing. Then Apricot realized that the Sandwing was actually laughing, not crying, and let out a small humph of disgust before getting to her claws and walking off to sit with a yellow Rainwing nearby.

'Did you see that puny Rainwing! She thought she was ALMIGHTY!' Storm giggled, reappearing from behind her dark yellow speckled wing.

'Heh yea.' Time replied, shooting 'I'm sorry' looks at Apricot, who turned around to glare at him, her red scales flashing.

'OK OK! That is enough speeching you two.' A large Mudwing pushed his way between the arguing Queen and Seawing, dragging an injured leg behind him. That must be Clay, Timeturner guessed. Tsunami growled to herself before stomping to the back of the D.O.Ds. (Dragonets of destiny, sorry; I'm too lazy to write that out every time). Glory just calmly righted her flower crown before going to stand next to a burly Nightwing, who whispered in her ear. Timeturner strained to listen to their conversation but a small, blind Nightwing had already stepped to the front holding a long, LONG scroll. Time guessed that this was Starflight, the Nightwing D.O.D who had been injured in the old Nightwing home, the Volcano. A tunnel from the Rainforest led there, though it had been closed up many years ago.

'Erm, EVERYBODY!' Starflight began, his voice small and wavery 'I shall be announcing your winglets at this moment, please quieten down so everybody can hear.' The ongoing chat continued as the

eager dragonets around Time whispered to each other, ignoring the blind Nightwing.

'EGH EGH HEM!' Tsunami bellowed, eyeing the audience with annoyance. Everyone quieted down as her glare passed over them and the Prey Center became silent. 'Thank you.' The Seawing finished, sitting back down with a glare at Starflight to tell him to continue.

'Um, yes. First, the Jade Winglet.' Starflight began again. Time raised his head, watching him with light green eyes.

'For the Sandwing, we have...' Starflight rubbed his talons over the scroll then looked back at where he thought the audience was 'Sandstorm.' For some reason, Timeturner felt disappointed that he couldn't be in a group with her; only one Sandwing per winglet stated the rules.

'For the Seawing we have... Beach! For the Icewing and Mudwing there is Shard and Squelch! And the last two...' Starflight lowered his head to the scroll as though willing himself to see. Eventually, he opened his snout to speak:

'Apricot and Timeturner!'

Chapter 1: Fresh Start

[image]

'Oh yay. I'm in a winglet with HER.' Apricot growled sarcastically.

'Well I don't like you much either.' Storm replied, curling her tail barb menacingly. They had been arguing non-stop since they had left the Prey Center and I just wished they would stop. Turning away from the growling dragons I peered at the rest of our winglet. Shard was... quiet. That was one word to describe her. Her scales were silver, like a polar bears fur and she had pale white eyes that were always darting around nervously. Beach seemed proud and determined; though I wouldn't know too well as he seemed to only ever talk to Squelch, his best friend. He was Tsunami and Riptide's son and looked like he was only three; quite young to be coming to school. **(I figured out that one dragon year is like three humans ones so Beach was only... 9?)** Timeturner himself was only 4 but there still seemed to be a big difference between him and the young dragonet. Squelch was an... interesting character. He was small for a Mudwing, but not the same sort of quiet that Shard was. He was more... burly. Unusual. It was always hard to read his expressions and he only ever talked to Beach. Their scales blended together as they walked side-by-side; greenish blue and light umber. I trotted over to our Skywing, his scales were a dark red, almost brown. He had joined us later on; his name had not been mentioned on the scroll Starflight had been carrying but they had sorted it out eventually. His large wings were folded beside him, he wore golden chainmail around his chest and a small silver horn ring on his left head spike.

'Hey, your Timeturner right?' His voice was low but chirpy, he seemed nice.

'Yup, that's me, the hybrid.' I grinned 'Who are you then?' I asked politely, walking beside him now.

'Prince Cliff, but call me Cliff.' I stared open-mouthed at the

Skywing before me, then I finally realized I looked like a fish and closed my snout. I lowered myself into a bow, placing one talon in front and lowering my head and wings.

'Ha, no need for that. I've had WAY too much of that treatment in the palace.' He laughed, his white teeth glinting and bumped wings with me. I stumbled to the side; I hadn't expected him to be so strong. I smiled back.

'I wonder when they'll choose the clawmates.' Suddenly Apricot was on my other side, right now she was pink, yellow and orange... Happy, excited and annoyed. I peered over her shoulder at Sandstorm who was snarling to herself, shooting death stares at Apricot. Heh, this winglet would be interesting. Cliff had begun talking to Apricot now, ducking his head to see her beneath my head:

'Wow! You can really change colours? That's epic!'

'Your a PRINCE! That is WAYYY more amazing!'

'I don't know... camouflage scales seem cooler.' And so on. I trotted ahead, catching up with Sandstorm. Come on Timeturner, be COOL.

'Er, hey!' I called, padding next to her.

'Hi.' She grumbled. Her yellow frill was hanging over onto one side of her face, hiding one eye. I leaned over without thinking, brushing it away from her pale eye. She blinked at me and I blushed, ducking my head. Then I felt her wing brush mine and it tingled where she touched, like a bright light piercing a shadow. I watched her from the corner of my eye, was that on purpose...? I couldn't tell. She didn't move away however so maybe... I told myself not to get my hopes up. She probably just hadn't noticed. That's all it was.

'I wonder who our clawmates will be?' She said, breaking the awkward silence.

'I'm... I am not sure. Who- who do you want your clawmate to be?' I

asked.

'Well-' She broke off, watching me with those pale amber eyes...

'OUR CLAWMATES HAVE TO BE OF THE SAME GENDER!' Apricot said loudly to Cliff, though I knew she was actually telling us that. The prince gave her a quizzical expression, tilting his head to the side. Apricot whispered in his ear for second before he nodded and looked over at us, catching my eyes. I looked away quickly, deciding that my talons looked VERY interesting at that moment. Storm stuck her forked tongue at the Rainwing then replied:

'I *KNOW THAT*!' And so went the argument till we got to our dorm.

We had to split up, the girls headed up the left tunnel and us up the right. I trotted through the entrance to our cave, ducking my head under the low arch and following Beach who was still chatting with Squelch. I could feel Cliff's hot breath on my tail as I walked and I twitched it uncomfortably. Finally, Squelch and Beach had the sense to move out of the entrance and I trotted inside, looking around curiously. There were four corners, each like they had been taken from where they were meant to be and squished into a cave. In the corner nearest to me, left of the doorway, was a heap of mud which oozed in a small circle of rocks; keeping it trapped. That was PROBABLY Squelches. On the right side stood a rock ledge, a bookshelf below. Cliff trotted over to it, running his claws along the scrolls on the shelf, picking one and settling down on the ledge to read. I turned to see a Seawing dart past me, jump high in the air and come splashing down in a pool at the back of the cave. Small droplets attacked my talons and I shook them, scattering the water off. I glared at Beach as he flapped around in the clear water, making water flood around him. Grumbling I turned to find my sleeping spot. It was further back along the cave, near Cliff. It was lifted off the floor, a relief as the ground below was drenched. I wonder if that was planned or just a coincidence? It was covered in a substance like hay but looked much softer than that. I practically glided across the room, diving onto the ledge and curling up in the grass. Why was I so *tired*? I had hardly done anything today! Cliff and Squelch had begun arguing about who should be allowed to use the scrolls but I hardly noticed.

I closed my eyes, letting sleep guide me away.

Chapter 2: Clawmates

[image]

'Up! Up, up and more up!'

I covered my head with my starry black wings, the yellow undersides hiding my tired face. It was still so *early;* there was no way school was about to start *NOW*.

'I said- UP!' And I felt strong dark red talons clasp my back legs, dragging me off the ledge. I yelped as I fell to the still damp floor and quickly got to my feet.

'They chose the clawmates! Come ON; you have to see!' I blinked, still half asleep; I kept seeing my parents dotting around the room. And yes, I dream about my parents. A lot. Which is COMPLETELY normal. Slowly I got to my claws, shaking my head to clear the sleep. Wait, did he say clawmates?

'Why didn't you say so!' I scrambled to the doorway, my wings held high in the air. A scroll had been pinned on the outside of the cave; I could see its crinkly paper from here! I slid around the cave entrance so I could see the scroll clearly. Please don't be Squelch, not Squelch, not Squelch.

'Wait what?' I stared at the scroll as though the sheer power of my gaze would make it explain itself. My waker, Cliff, rounded on me instantly as he skidded to a stop beside me.

'How- I thought...' His face was contorted into disbelief and puzzlement.

'Apricot said that they only put the same gender together so why...?' Had Apricot lied? But surely someone would deny what she said if it was. Surely someone knew at the time that you could be clawmates with anyone?

'Hey, look! I get to be clawmates with Apricot!' Cliff practically

sparkled with glee.

'Good luck.' I replied, scanning the scroll for my name. There!

Timeturner, male, Nightwing/Sandwing + Shard, female, Icewing

I'm clawmates with Shard? I hardly even know her! There must be some mistake. I looked through the scroll once more:

Clawmates this year: *Jade Winglet*

Cliff, male, Skywing + Apricot, female, Rainwing

Beach, male, Seawing + Clover, female, Rainwing/Seawing

Timeturner, male, Nightwing/Sandwing + Shard, female, Icewing

Squelch, male, Mudwing + Sandstorm, female, Sandwing

Sandstorm was with Squelch! I didn't know how to feel about that. Happy for him? Sorry for Sandstorm? Jealous? Annoyed? Confused? I shook my head in bewilderment.

'*Come on* Timeturner! Lets go see our Clawmates!' Cliff was already stumbling down the hallway towards the girls dorms. I groaned. I guess I'd have to manage with a quiet. Untalkative. basically all synonyms for 'doesn't talk at all' clawmate. Great.

A short chapter today, I will get started on the next one as soon as I've published this part. I hope you like it so far! I also finally came up with a good plot idea; get ready for some DRAMA! =3

Chapter 3: Day 1

[image]

'Hey Timeturner... I guess- I'm working with you.' I was sat in our history class. With Shard. Dying of boredom.

'I guess.' I said, shuffling around uncomfortably. Webs had just told us to write a report on the Sandwing war of succession. With our clawmates. I tried to hide a sigh; working with Shard was the last thing I wanted to do. I glanced over at Sandstorm who was gazing at her claws in a lonely way while Squelch tried to shuffle closer to Beach. I wanted to run over there and rap my wings around her. Of course, i couldn't do that. Not with everyone else here, not when we were in the middle of a lesson. Not when I wasn't sure if she would push me away.

'Um, Time?' I glanced up at Shard.

'What?' I asked harshly.

'I- you just looked... sad.' She murmured curling her tail around her back legs and looking away.

'Sorry Shard... I just-' I started, feeling guilty.

'Its fine. Honestly, I understand.' She said, looking back at me. I was shocked to meet her purely white eyes. I was drowning in her gaze... the world disappearing. There was an egg, floating in the black space around me. I swam closer. Suddenly the egg broke in two. Revealing a dead dragonet. It body flopped motionlessly to the side, its blue eyes staring into nothing. I could hear crying, I was crying. It was gone- never coming back. These feelings weren't mine. I was being pulled out of the deep water, leaving the egg behind. I screamed out, trying to swim back; to save it. But I was already surfacing; it was too late.

'Timeturner? Timeturner!' I felt cold talons shaking me and I opened my eyes. A snow-white face gazed worryfuly down at me. As I

gained consciousness I noticed white wings surrounded me, blocking out shocked murmurs. I raised my head, it seemed to sting from everywhere.

'Shard! Let us see him, please!' I heard the worried voice of Cliff.

'No! He needs space!' Came the reply. Then there was a loud sound and the white figure disappeared and was replaced by a yellow.

'Time!' Who was that?

'S-storm?'

'Its me! Don't worry, I got that horrid Icewing away. Your safe now.' I blinked slowly, the world coming into focus. Sandstorm stood over me as well as three other worried faces.

'Is he going to be ok?' That was Apricot.

'Er- I'll fetch Clay!' That was definitely Webs.

'Its fine. Im fine.' I sat up, shaking my head.

'What happened to you Time? One minute you were looking at Shard the next-' Cliff trailed off.

'That Icewing did something to you! Tell me Turner, ill kill her for it.' Storm said. I shook my head.

'N-no. It wasn't her fault!' Shard was slipping away; out of the cave.

'Wait!' But she was gone, her scales leaving a white stain in my memory.

A short one! Please lend me some of your ocs; I'm in desperate need of more winglets. Comment them below and ty if you submit one; it helps a lot!

Sorry, I lied. I said I would get started on this chap straight away, I had family over though, so I was unable to. I hope you

enjoy it so far and ty for the 15 ppl that have read it! I will post the next chapter straight away; no lying this time.

Chapter 4: Day 2

[image]

'Hey, are you ok?' Cliff was sitting beside me, the carcass of a chicken in his claws. I poked at my own chicken that he had caught for me a few minutes before.

'I just- I feel really bad. Shard didn't do anything; it wasn't her fault but she was treated as though it was.' I said, looking at Cliff for reassurance.

'Why don't you go talk to her? Apologize.' He replied 'Hey, if you go can I have your chicken?'

'Oh, so that's what this is about.' I said, raising an eyebrow tauntingly.

'No. I just- it would go to waste otherwise.' He said quickly.

'I'm kidding, its fine. You can have it; I'm not hungry anyways.' I said, already peering over all the dragon heads surrounding me. Beach, as usual, was sat beside Squelch; sharing a goat. Sandstorm was sat next to six other Sandwings, chatting away happily. Apricot had sauntered over and began talking to Cliff about how great the Mangoes in the Rainforest were.

I stared around, now worrying about Shard. Why wasn't she here? All the winglets gathered here at the same time each day; she should be here. It had been a day since the... vision. She couldn't still be holding a grudge against her winglet. No. She isn't like that. It must be something else keeping her away. I jumped into the air, flying above the feasting dragons and scanning the crowd. No, she was definitely not here. There were no albino dragonets present. **(Yes, Shard is albino =3)**

I flew lower, diving through the exit that led to the hallway. I could hear a scuffle; thumps, screams, it was distant though. Only a Sandwing would be able to hear something so far away. I panicked,

was Darkstalker coming back? No, my parents had been there as he was turned into a dragonet; they saw it happen. He wasn't going to be back anytime soon. Still, some sort of fight was going on. I flapped my wings a little harder. There was not much room in the small passage; I had to be careful not to run into any other dragonets.

The fight seemed to get closer and I slowed to a stop, landing on the stone floor. I crept closer, listening to the conversation.

'Come on, be a proper Icewing! Fight back!' A dark voice smirked.

'H-help!' A light voice choked out.

'Ha! There is no one to protect you anymore; you all alone now, runt!' That was a new voice; female this time. There was a soft whimper, then a thump. I widened my eyes; I had to do something!

I sped along the corridor, keeping my wings tucked close to my body.

I rounded a corner, then rushed to a stop as I saw what lay before my eyes.

Chapter 5: Day 2

[image]

Shard lay on the floor, bleeding from several cuts along her spine. Three dragons stood before me, their sharp claws glistening with blue blood except for one whose scales were a bright blue. All the dragons were Icewings, large and imposing. The one with no blood I guessed was the leader of the gang; he held his wings higher, his chin raised in authority.

'What are you doing here, hybrid?' He questioned calmly, though his voice dripped with menace.

'I- I was just...' I trailed off; I shouldn't pick a fight with these dragons. They didn't look like the type to give mercy.

'You were just what exactly?' The female asked, taking a step forward and letting her claws scrape across the floor, leaving a glistening blue scar on the stone.

'I just came to-' I used the first excuse that came to mind 'I came to get my scrolls for the next lesson.' I tried keep my voice steady. Shard watched me from behind the gang, her eyes pits of hurt.

'Well, we cant let you go telling the whole school about this. Can we?' The leader droned on, his tail swishing along the floor.

'I promise I wont! Honest!' I cried, taking a step back. I had to help Shard, but how? I couldn't take on all these dragons by myself.

'But that wont be enough, will it?' The other male said, narrowing dark blue eyes at me scornfully.

I gulped, taking a step back as the gang advanced on me.

'Time doesn't mean any harm!' Shard called from beyond me; trying to get to her claws but slipping.

'Silence!' The leader spun around and raked her claws down Shards face, leaving her crying out in pain before turning to me.

'So she does know you.' He said, his voice low and angry.

I glanced around for a route to escape but the female and other Icewing had already crept around behind me; blocking the exit. I'd have to fight my way out of this one.

Suddenly the male with dark eyes lunged towards me from behind and in a second he was pulling me too the floor, his serrated claws sinking into my back. I yelped in surprise, shaking myself to get him off. He didn't budge and his claws were digging underneath scales; piercing skin. I rolled over onto him, trying to hurt him using my weight. But it was no use; I wasn't heavy enough anyways. The female leaped onto me, pushing me off the male and sprawling to the floor.

'Dragonet!' She sneered, walking towards me. This time I lunged first. There was a sharp pain as my claws collided with her cold scales but I recovered quickly, sinking them into her skin as deep as possible. She screamed then went quiet. What was she doing? She turned her neck to look at me on her back, extending her jaws. I could see a frosty white substance building there. Oh no. Frostbreath! She exhaled but I leapt away just in time. The snow hit the wall behind me, melting against its warmth and making a small pool below. I looked back to see the male Icewing lunging for me, his jaws extended in a snarl. I side-stepped; dodging his attack and he landed with a thump on the floor, skidding ever closer to the Frostbreath. I reached out to stop him, but it was too late. He crashed against the wall and the Frostbreath didn't hesitate to attack. His underbelly scales were the first to be frozen, cracking terribly. It spread across his neck, his wings, freezing everything it touched till he was a motionless statue. Eternally stuck. The female gaped, open-mouthed at the statue for a while before collapsing in front of him.

'Seal! No, you cant be dead!' She cried, burying her face in his hardened scales.

'Fox-' The leader started, stepping towards her.

'This is your fault!' She yelled, spinning around to face me. I watched her with warily but felt a pang of sympathy.

'I'm sorry; I didn't mean for this to happen.' I said gently, I walked towards Shard slowly as the Icewings gathered around Seal to mourn. Maybe we could escape while they weren't looking? But as soon as I reached Shard the leader spun around, staring at me with emotionless eyes.

'He killed my mate, he has to be punished Ice!' Fox snarled, turning around to face me too. Ice replied by stepping closer to me. Fox smiled.

'Now you will get what you really deserve, dragonet!' She called as Ice lashed out at my neck. His blow hit home and I was nocked to the floor, stars filling my vision as my head hit the stone.

Ice took my back leg in his talons, dragging me away and pulling my leg at a weird angle. I heard a snap, wincing as pain flooded from my leg. Still he dragged me along the floor, I hadn't the energy to fight back. I just lay limp.

'Hey! You!' I looked at the tunnel that led to the Hunting Center as Tsunami walked in, lashing her tail. Ice dropped me instantly. Fox gasped, hugging Seal closer. I took the distraction as a chance to escape. Getting to my claws, I limped over to Shard. I put one of my wings under hers; lifting her off the floor where a pile of blue and red blood had gathered. She buried her head in my neck, wincing in pain as we made our way along the corridor.

Eventually, we made it to my Dorm. There was no way I was taking her back to hers. I wasn't going to leave her as easy prey for the gang again. She flinched as I lifted her onto my ledge, rubbing her scratches with water from the small pool nearby. Then I got in myself, washing my wounds gently and scanning for any broken bones other than the one in my leg.

'Thank you, Timeturner.' She said in a voice like a whisper. I nodded in reply, curling up beside her on the ledge and putting one wing over her small, cold body. She continued breathing harshly then it slowed down to a sleep friendly drone. I put my head on my

talons, taking a deep breath before falling into ice shrouded dreams.

Whelp, hope that was drama-y enough for you. Who do you ship? TimeStorm? ApricotTurner? Perhaps... TimeShard? I hope you've enjoyed the book so far!

Chapter 6: Day 3

[image]

I woke to the sound of snoring, that horrid, loud snoring. Everything was sore. I opened my eyes lazily, scanning the room. There! I narrowed my eyes. Of course Squelch was the culprit. Squelch was *always* the culprit! I shuffled around, trying to get comfortable again but bumping against cold scales. I peered under my wing, staring at the Icewing underneath.

Then I remembered the events of the day before: Shard missing, then finding her being bullied by a gang of Icewings; her own tribe, then finally crawling back to the Dorm to rest. I yawned stiffly, my internal clock telling me that it was a few minutes till dawn; we had to get up soon.

Shard looked so peaceful when she was asleep; like a tiger finally lowering its guard. I wished I could let her sleep for longer but we had classes to attend. I nuzzled her shoulder gently and she let out a soft groan.

'Shard? Come on, we have to get to class; its morning.' I said gently, my voice croaking after its lack of use.

'Its not morning.' Shard replied in a whisper, curling up against my side. I sighed softly.

'Come on Shard. Otherwise I'll have to get Squelch to sit on you.'

'I shall do no such thing!' Squelch spat from the corner. So that was why his snoring had stopped.

'Oh come off it Squelch, he was just kidding.' Beach surfaced, his eyes were bleary with sleep and his frill lay flat against his head. Squelch muttered to himself mutinously, getting out of the mud and shaking it off in all directions.

'Come on, lets go to our lessons already.' Cliff was up, tucking scrolls under his wing.

'Wait. Timeturner... dont. Move.' Beach was staring straight at me. I froze, staring back anxiously.

'There's an Icewing. Shh. Ill get it while it's asleep.' Beach crept closer, eyeing Shard warily,

'Wait. She's a friend.' I said quickly, standing in front of her,

'O- oh.' Beach sat on his haunches, tilting his head to the side.

'Er- why were you sleeping with her? Is she your mate?' Cliff asked, peering at me questioningly.

'AGH NO! We are just friends. Friends. Ok?' I said, shuddering.

'Okay... one day I will say I told you so...' Cliff broke off.

Shard lifted her head. I gasped, a large scar was imprinted across her face, slashing across one of her eyes. I hadn't realized it was this bad!

'Er, what happened to your girlfriend and why are you limping?' Asked Beach, taking a step closer to examine me and Shard.

'She. Is. Not. My. Girlfriend!' I cried. 'And she just got into a fight last night. I was looking for her as she is my *clawmate* and therefore I have the right to be worried. There was this gang of Icewings bullying her, I found her in time though. It was brutal.' I shuddered from my wings to tail, turning to face Shard as she spoke:

'He saved me.' She said quietly, looking at me in a way that made me want to hide in hay for a year to hide my blushing.

'Tell us what happened later; we are going to be late if we don't go soon!' Cliff said, ushering us out of the cave and into the hallway. Where a large large group of gossiping dragons clustered.

'Later huh.' I said, stunned at how fast the news had got round. Then the crowd noticed the half-winglet, jumping over. Ah well. I

wanted to make lots of friends, didn't I?

Wow look! He's here!'

'Oh! Look at her face; its all scratched up!'

'I wonder what they will say happened?'

'I cant believe there was a fight!'

'Hey! Let us through!' I raised my head. I knew that voice...

'If you don't let me past I swear ill swipe your face off!'

'Dad?' Shard rushed into the crowd as a large, shiny blue Icewing stepped towards her.

'Shard!' He rapped her in his wings.

'Your mother couldn't come, she had work to do.' The blue Icewing said gently, any trace of anger gone from his voice.

'It's ok; I'm just glad you came.' Shard's voice was muffled by her dad's large wings.

'TIMETURNER!' I spun around.

'Dad? Mum?' I titled my head to the side; it was definitely them. My mother stepped towards me anxiously while my father watched; scanning the crowd warily. Her scales were black; like mine. She had long, majestic wings and silver scales by her eyes. Her tail swept in long arcs across the floor as she examined me from head to tail.

'Muummmm; im fine.' I complained; the crowd was staring at me now, giggling as my mum looked me over.

'You are not *fine*. Let me see your leg.' Mum said, lifting my wing to see the broken leg beneath.

I groaned, turning to my father as mum inspected my back leg anxiously. He had plunked himself down a few meters away, staring

at the Icewing now letting go of Shard. His scarred nose was speckled with light brown spots, his wings were covered in them too. His venomous tail sat neatly in a tight ball; you had to be careful with so many dragons around.

'Winter?' He questioned, staring at the Icewing now looking over.

'Q-Qibli?' Winter took a step forwards 'What are you doing here?' He asked, wrinkling his brow in puzzlement.

'I came to see what trouble my son got into this time. He's just like his dad.' He turned and grinned at me. I smiled back, limping over as mum let go of my leg.

'Same. Except I came to see my daughter. A relation to the Queen should never get into fights!' He said, lifting his blue snout. The fathers both burst out laughing.

'I remember when you used to do that! All 'I'm the Queens nephew. I don't *do* fun. One day you shall probably bow before my sister you lazy... salamanders'!' Qibli said, wrinkling his snout in amusement.

'Except the son of the Queens brother would *never* say the word 'Salamander' we prefer- Whale.' Winter said, snorting. Shard came up beside him, squinting at my dad curiously.

'Winter?' Winter spun around. 'Moon.' He replied, staring at my mum.

'I thought you were never coming back-' Mum said, blinking as if she wasn't sure he was real.

'Well, here I am.' He replied, looking from my mum to me.

'Ah, you decided to have a dragonet. Congratulations.' He said in a way that made me think he didn't want to congratulate us.

'Oh Winter.' Moonwatcher walked up to him.

'You have your own love now; forget about me.' She said, putting a talon over his.

'I will never forget you.' Winter said fiercely. 'Not until the day I die.' He rapped his wings around her.

'You don't know how long I have wanted to do that.' He said, looking at his talons once they pulled away.

'Winter, you have your own love. Just like I do.' Mum turned to Qibli, who looked up quickly from eyeing a snail rolling across the floor.

'Huh?' He said, going back to the snail. Mum laughed.

'You love Lynx. Be with her. You have a beautiful dragonet too; aren't you happy you had her?' Winter nodded, pulling Shard closer to himself.

'I will always be your friend Winter; nothing more.' She said, turning back to me. Ugh. Romance.

'Come on, I want to go see the founders of the school again; its been such a long time, what was it? 6 years since we were at school! We are old, aren't we Qibli?' She turned back to dad who stood up quickly.

'My spirit shall never die!' He replied eagerly.

'Keep telling yourself that.' Winter muttered, grinning. Qibli snorted:

'Have a look at yourself!' And so went the conversation.

'Dad, I know you guys are worried about us. But we really need to get to class.' Shard saved me at the perfect time.

'Ok, go ahead. Me and-' He looked at me.

'Timeturner.' I said.

'Timeturner's parents are going to catch up. We will come say goodbye when we leave.' Winter said, already turning back to insult Qibli. Shard turned to look at me and I shrugged.

'Lets get to class.' She said, smiling.

It was a bit random but I had to, HAD TO get that in there. It works for both Winterwatcher fans and Moonbli fans! Peace! End the war! -Secretly tucks knife in pouch under wing- just in case.

Sorry, that was a little mush-i-er then I'd expected. Sorry bout that. Thanks for 30 ppl! It doesn't seem like much but it means a lot. Thanks for reading! I'll release the next chapter soon. Starcatcher out!

Chapter 7: Day 3

[image]

'That was weird.' Cliff stated. I nodded.

'I had NO idea me and Shards parents new each other!' I said, looking over at her. The whole winglet had formed again and were on their way to the first class of the day: Get To Know Each Other Lesson 1. Shard just shook her head in disbelief.

'Wai- those were your parents?' Asked Squelch. Moons, he was slow to catch on.

'Yup.' I stared at the floor.

'WHY DIDN"T YOU TELL ME YOU WERE IN A FIGHT!?' Cried Apricot, jumping up beside me.

'I would have BEATEN the... the... SPIKES! SPIKES OFF OF THEM!' She yelled passionately.

'I'm sure you would have.' Storm said sarcastically.

'Yes, I would have.' Apricot lifted her snout proudly. Then she caught Storm's sarcasm and went bright red.

'How DARE you!' She cried, trying to get past me and over to Sandstorm, who just giggled to herself. A blood coloured wing bashed me in the face a few times before I managed to get Apricot to calm down. She grumbled to herself for a while after.

'It's not like he could have told you anyways.' Said Shard. 'He was too busy saving me.' She finished, looking at me as if I was the hero.

'What? No. Tsunami was the one who saved you Shard. I was just... there.' I said, speeding up a little to catch up with the others.

'I dont know... you look pretty battered to have just stood there the whole time.' Replied Beach, turning me as I walked beside him. He was at least a head smaller than me and I had to look down to see his face. He was definitely the youngest, it wasn't hard to tell. Cliff was oldest; almost 5 already! Yet Cliff seemed to match everyone else's height, so it was harder to tell.

'I just happened to be there when they attacked her, technically I didn't do anything. They just started hurting me instead of her. That doesn't really count, does it?' I asked my winglet.

'Eh, you broke your leg for her so...' Said Apricot, glancing down at my now bandaged leg; Clay had found us before we got to the hallway, saying that he needed to check us up for any bad injuries. Other than my leg and Shard's face Clay said we would be ok. Though Shard's right cheek and eye would be scarred forever, my leg would heal over time.

We walked up through a tunnel shrouded with ferns, vines and other plants I wouldn't be able to pronounce. Flowers dotted the passageway too, their buds signaling the start of Spring. Small tufts of grass poked through cracks in the stone below, defying its captor and breaking free. Smells filled my snout: Pollen, rain, new life, all mixed together. Vines twirled around globe lights filled with fireflies flowing through the passage. Water trickled past my feet, running down back to the Hunting Center which was were the tunnel started. Leaves like dragon tails hung over potted plants, brushing the floor with pointy tips. The air became damper as I walked on, it felt as though we were almost swimming in it when the cave began to open out into a wide room. Tsunami was not here yet, though the room felt very inhabited. The source of the stream cascaded down a from a wall where a small hole led to outside. Here too, plants covered the walls, floor, even the ceiling had bright yellow plants dangling from it. Cushions of grass ran in a circle in the middle of the room; where we would sit, I guessed.

Apricot bounded over to the walls, smelling flowers eagerly while the rest of the winglet filed in. Beach hopped over to the stream, trying to see through the hole that led outside but instead getting a lot of water in his eyes. The cave was open on one side, giving a beautiful view of a distant Rainforest, a small open Savanna before;

dotted with small lakes probably brimming with fish. I wondered if our winglet would have the Hunting lesson today as well; each winglet took turns to bring back lunch for the rest of the students. With the help of another winglet of course. There was no way one winglet could fetch enough food to feed 49 dragons! (Not counting the Founders of the school) The D.O.Ds had added another two winglets to the school, what with so many student wanting to join. I lifted the scroll given out to all students with the winglets on it from a pouch round my neck, unraveling it and sitting down on the grass to study it while we waited for Tsunami to arrive.

JADE WINGLET:

Icewing: Shard

Mudwing: Squelch

Nightwing: (Hybrid Sandwing)Timeturner

Rainwing: Apricot

Sandwing: Sandstorm

Seawing: Beach **(Ripnami son)**

Skywing: Prince Cliff

GOLD WINGLET:

Icewing: Seal

Mudwing: Lizard

Nightwing: Longsight

Rainwing:(Hybrid Seawing) Clover **(Turtlejou son)**

Sandwing: Mite

Seawing: Reef

Skywing: Peregrine

SILVER WINGLET:

Icewing: Whale

Mudwing: Tails

Nightwing: Bighead

Rainwing: (Hybrid Nightwing) Prince Vine **(Glorybringer son)**

Sandwing: Tunnel

Seawing: Glow

Skywing: Height

COPPER WINGLET:

Icewing: Fox

Mudwing: Froggy

Nightwing: Crazymind

Rainwing: (Hybrid Nightwing) Princess Firefly **(Glorybringer daughter)**

Sandwing: Baobab

Seawing: Princess Auklet **(Daughter of Queen Coral)**

Skywing: Amber

QUARTZ WINGLET:

Icewing: Ice

Mudwing: Snail

Nightwing: Sharpclaws

Rainwing: Oak

Sandwing: Prince Claws **(Smolder and Thorn's son)**

Seawing: Nemo **(Heh.)**

Skywing: Boulder

New additions:

DIAMOND WINGLET:

Icewing: Blubber

Mudwing: Bog

Nightwing: Mindstealer

Rainwing: Tangerine

Sandwing: Bronze

Seawing: Wave

Skywing: Iris

STONE WINGLET:

Icewing: Orca

Mudwing: Raspberry

Nightwing: Bravetalons

Rainwing: Drip

Sandwing: Desert

Seawing: (Hybrid Rainwing) Creative **(Turtlejou son)**

Skywing: Fireless **(Cleril son)**

'Hey! I want to see that!' The scroll was snatched out of my claws, now held by grubby brown ones.

'Squelch! I was looking at that!' I said, getting up to face him.

'Well now *I'm* looking at it!' He said, rolling the scroll up at tucking it into a pouch under his wing.

'Give it back; you have your own!' I cried, lunging for the bag around his middle. My talons bumped against the buckle, making the bag fall to the ground. It's contents spilled onto the floor.

'Now look what you've done!' He yelled, quickly swiping everything back into the pouch. But not before I saw what else was in it.

'Squelch... why do you have a Dreamvisitor?' I asked slowly, the whole winglet was looking at him now.

'Er, it was a present from my mum!' He cried, zipping the pouch up and hanging it round his neck.

'What's going on here?' Tsunami entered the room, eyeing her students. Beach waved at her and she smiled at her son warmly before glaring at the rest of us.

'Um. Nothing! We were just waiting for you to come Mrs.' Apricot said, saving me from Tsunami's suspicious glance.

'You better hope you were! Now, sit.' She said, jumping onto a ledge above the grass mats. I wasn't listening though. I was trying to

detangle what Squelch had said. How did Squelch get a Dreamvisitor from his mum, when Mudwing parents don't want anything to do with their children? He was hiding something, I was sure of it. And I would find out what it was.

DUN DUN DUUUNNNNN Chapter 7 = COMPLETE! Moons, I kind of wish I hadn't added on that extra two winglets. I literally just made up 49 dragons names! Did you like the next generation dragonets? I had trouble finding a name for Prince Vine, so I just stole the name from my younger sisters story. Dont worry, she probably wont mind. I will also post the winglets on the next chapter in case you would like to look back at them later on in the story. Thanks for reading the story so far!

Chapter 8: Day 3

[image]

'Right. Lets go round in a circle. Beach, your first.' Tsunami smiled down at her son, encouraging him.

'Hello! I'm Beach, as you probably already know. Tsunami is my mother and I am Queen Corals nephew. My best friend is Squelch and I live in here with my mother and father.' Beach rapped his tail around Squelches, grinning at us all as if we were bowls of fish. He poked Squelch so that he looked up.

'Er, oh ya. I'm Squelch.' He said, going back to breaking a strand of grass between his claws. Cliff looked at me and I shrugged, Squelch didn't seem to want to tell anyone about himself. Suspicious.

'U-um. Hi. I'm Shard. Timeturner is my only friend and I live in Possibility with my dad, Winter. My mum is Queen Snowfalls best advisor and- and im albino.' She said, sitting back down as soon as she could and gesturing for me to go. I stood up, my talons sinking into the soil beneath.

'Hi. I am Timeturner, the Sandwing Nightwing hybrid. My parents came to this school when they were my age and now live on the border of the Sand kingdom.' I finished, sitting back down. Shard gave me a disappointed look as if I did something wrong. Oh. Everyone else had said their best friend and I hadn't mentioned her. But- was she my best friend? I wasn't sure I wanted to ask myself that question.

'Hello! I am Apricot; the one and only! You are ALL my friends and absolutely ADORE me!' Storm snorted at this but Apricot still continued passionately:

'I live in the Rainforest with my parents: Orchid and Mangrove. Moons are they glad they had me! They said they needed a break from me when they sent me here; I know that they're joking.' Another snort from my left.

'I love to study and play and eat and sleep and run and fly and walk and read and-' She was cut off by Tsunami.

'Er, very nice. Let's let Cliff go now.'

The prince stood, his wings held high. Even though he was a little goofy, he was still a prince and could definitely act like it.

'Hello dragons from other tribes. I am Prince Cliff, son of Queen Ruby and future leader of her army. I am her first-hatched and live in the palace with her. So far, if we are mentioning friends, I enjoy Time and Apricots company. I love to learn and am eager to be here.' He said, sitting back down with a whumf as Apricot began to whisper in his ear. He laughed quietly to himself, replying soon after. I turned to Sandstorm, who remained seated.

'I am Sandstorm. I enjoy racing other dragonets in races in the air and on land. I am one of the few dragons still living in the Scorpion Den and am proud to be. I came to this school to get education and that's what I will do.' She stated, as if reading from a scroll. Then she went back to examining her claws.

'Er. Ok! It's nice meeting all of you, I am Tsunami. And you probably know who I am anyways so I wont explain. Now! Lets go hunting because MOONS I'm bored!' The Seawing said, getting to her talons swiftly.

'Wait. We could just say we don't have to explain?' I heard Squelch mutter to Beach, before the Seawing cuffed him round the ear playfully.

'It wasn't like you said much anyways.' Beach said, turning his turquoise snout to Tsunami for instructions.

'Go on then! Get your lazy tails outside!' She said, taking a running leap off the edge and into the sky.

'Er- I'm not too good at flying-' Murmured Shard before she was hoisted into the sky by Apricot, whose wings were now a happy yellow colour again.

'Come on! You cant be a dragon and be 'not so good at flying'!'

Apricot cried, flapping her wings to stay aloft.

'I'd mistake you for a scavenger then!' She said before winging after the rest of the winglet. I leapt into the air after her, the stars under my wings glinting in the sunlight.

'Come on Bestie. We cant be left behind!' I called over my shoulder to Shard who beamed at me happily.

'Coming!' She cried, shooting ahead of me like a bullet.

'Can't fly too well, huh!' I muttered, beating my wings quickly to catch up with her shining white scales. Maybe she was my bestie. Or maybe I would be her bestie because she needed one. Either way, she was my friend and I wouldn't let any harm come to her again.

The Winglets!

[image]

JADE WINGLET:

Icewing: Shard

Mudwing: Squelch

Nightwing: (Hybrid Sandwing)Timeturner

Rainwing: Apricot

Sandwing: Sandstorm

Seawing: Beach **(Ripnami son)**

Skywing: Prince Cliff

GOLD WINGLET:

Icewing: Seal

Mudwing: Lizard

Nightwing: Longsight

Rainwing:(Hybrid Seawing) Clover **(Turtlejou son)**

Sandwing: Mite

Seawing: Reef

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Skywing: Amber

QUARTZ WINGLET:

Icewing: Ice

Mudwing: Snail

Nightwing: Sharpclaws

Rainwing: Oak

Sandwing: Prince Claws **(Smolder and Thorn son)**

Seawing: Nemo **(Heh.)**

Skywing: Boulder

New additions:

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Mudwing: Bog

Nightwing: Mindstealer

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Skywing: Iris

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Icewing: Orca

Mudwing: Raspberry

Nightwing: Bravetalons

Rainwing: Drip

Sandwing: Desert

Seawing: (Hybrid Rainwing) Creative **(Turtlejou son)**

Skywing: Fireless **(Cleril son)**

Chapter 9: Day 3

[image]

When we arrived at the main Prey Location the Gold Winglet was already there, waiting. Beach called out to one of the dragonets flapping in the air with her winglet and I wondered how he knew her. As we got closer I recognized her as Beaches clawmate and waved. She smiled back, flying closer. At first I had thought she was a Seawing; her scales were a dark, dark blue and her tail was large, like a Seawing, and her claws were webbed. But when she approached her luminescent scales flashed yellow. Her eyes too were orange, unlike any Seawing I'd ever met. This was a hybrid dragon.

'Wow! I didn't think I would actually meet a Seawing Rainwing hybrid! I was talking about wanting to be one just the other day; wasn't I Time?' Called Apricot and I nodded absentmindedly. So it was part Rainwing. I couldn't believe Apricot figured that out before me.

The dragons luminescent scales flashed a bright yellow as she embraced Beach in a hug.

'Hello Beach! How are you?' The hybrid said, pulling away but keeping their tails entwined.

'I am great thanks Clover! We just come from our Get to Know Each Other lesson, have you been here the whole time?' He chatted on while Squelch glared at Clover from a distance. Wow. I had no idea Squelch could experience any emotions other than anger or silence. If silence was an emotion, that is. Jealousness pretty much radiated of Squelch at the moment; I flew over to the other winglet's Nightwing.

'Hey, I'm Timeturner! What is your name?' I called out, flapping beside him. The Gold Winglet Nightwing wore glasses, making his eyes large and knowledgeable. The undersides of his wings, like all Nightwings, were speckled with white spots helping them blend

into the night sky. His tail flapped in the wind below him and the dragon glanced around at me nervously before replying:

'Hi. I. I. I'm Longsight.' He stuttered, pushing his glasses further up his nose with one black claw.

'Nice to meet you Longsight!' I smiled warmly at him and he seemed to relax. For a minute he closed his eyes, focusing intently on something I couldn't make out. He glanced around quickly, spotting Squelch and immediately jumped behind me in fear. Did this Nightwing know something? Just as I was about to ask Tsunami butted in.

'Right! Choose another two people if your on your own and form groups or three! You are only allowed to leave here if that happens, alright? We can't have the Jade winglet disappearing again, can we?' Ahh, a reference to my parents. They never told me much about what had happened when Darkstalker came out of the mountain, just said that they had watched him go down and I shouldn't worry. It's obvious they are hiding more information from me. Or not telling me so I don't do the same as they once did.

Longsight stayed beside me so I guessed he wanted to be my partner. I turned around to him.

'Who else should we hunt with?' I asked gently.

'Not t-that M. M. Mudwing!' He cried flinging himself onto me in a panic as Squelch flew over. I was dragged down by the shaky Nightwing's large wings and I had to push him off to right myself.

'Hey! Mind if I join your group?' A small Sandwing had popped up beside me and Longsight, bumping wings with the Longsight so he didn't get a fright.

'Yes! Quickly! Before that M. M. Mudwing gets here!' Longsight cried, hiding behind me again. Squelch had turned, seeing our full group and was headed towards Sandstorm and another Skywing I didn't know. Longsight let out a breath.

'Hey, Sight. Why are you so afraid of the Mudwing? Does he do

something bad in the future?' Questioned the pale Sandwing, curling his tail barb towards Squelch. Wait, Longsight could see the future? Of course! That explained the hesitations and the name! Longsight just shook his head dizzily, already flying over to where a small flock of sheep had gathered. The small Sandwing shrugged, turning to me as we flew after Longsight.

'Say, what is your name?'

'Timeturner. Yours?' I asked, keeping an eye on the ground below for any easy prey.

'Mite. Suits me, right?' He grinned at me before dashing after Longsight, who was trying to pick up a wild horse. I scanned the ground again. The long grass waved in the breeze, protecting the rodents that lived inside with a warm blanket over their heads. The Rainforest in the distance looked like a looming mountain, the trees creating long shadows on the plains. Wait, was that the flash of a tail? I zoomed down to the ground, laying low to the grass I had flattened and scanning the undergrowth for the rabbit; I was no use in the sky where it could spot me so easily. I spotted it again almost instantly. It was large for a rabbit; its long ears could probably reach the tips of the grass. It was staring after the rest of the winglets who had gathered over the flock of sheep, picking them up and dumping them in a large net used for carrying back live prey. Its nose twitched, flicking it white bushy tail in concern.

What are they doing to those sheep?

I jumped. What was that? It sounded like a voice. But... I didn't have Nightwing powers. There was no way I was reading another dragons mind, even if I was hatched under one moon I still had more Sandwing characteristic than Nightwing so it made no effect. I pricked my ears, trying to hear it again. But the rabbit had already smelt me in the bushes, scampering away and ducking into its burrow before I could blink. I sighed, I wanted to find out who that voice was and why I could hear it but I couldn't do that now if the dragon nearby was aware of me. I jumped into the air, making crows scatter around me. I flew over to Longsight and Mite who were refusing to give up with that horse. They could probably use a little extra help. I must have imagined the voice anyways. It didn't

matter anymore.

Chapter 10: Day 5

[image]

(I skipped a day because... just because.)

I yawned, stretching my wings and raising my head out of the hay. The rest of the winglet were still asleep and Squelches snores echoed around the cave, I was used to them now. Luckily.

I clambered off the ledge. The floor was no longer wet, just a cold dampness that made me shiver. Which was almost worse. I spread my arms in front of me, leaning back in a stretch that made my back crack after being still for so long. I limped over to the doorway where the scrolls showing what lessons you had each day were posted. I picked it up off the floor, unrolling it and squinting at the words written on it with bleary eyes.

Lessons, day 5, Jade Winglet:

Sunrise to Sunhigh:

Geography with Webs

Sunhigh:

Lunch with all winglets and Suntime

Afternoon:

Library with Starflight and Copper Winglet

Another full day. Yay. I sighed; I just wanted a break from the ongoing lessons now. Just one day where we could relax, talk and explore. As I walked back inside my foot knocked against another scroll, its paper wrinkled and brown with messy handwriting scribbled on it. I squinted. That was weird; there shouldn't be another scroll, there was nothing else we needed to know. I picked it up warily, rubbing my eyes lazily before unraveling it.

Whoever holds this is invited to a celebration on the west peak of Jade Mountain tomorrow. Bring two friends and no one else. Tell nobody except those accepted. Revealing the celebration will cause in annoyance, sadness and hate. DO NOT TELL THE FOUNDERS! This is your warning. Be there when the sun begins to lower or be a scaredy scavenger. This is your last warning.

I widened my eyes. A party? Tomorrow? It was too early for this. I rubbed my eyes again, reading the scroll more carefully. Well, I may as well go. It's not like I had anything else to do and plus, it should be fun. I trotted back inside the dorm, tucking the scroll into the pouch that all students were given around my neck. Just two more days to put up with boredom and then I would be free to do whatever I wanted! With my two chosen dragonets of course. I looked around. Who to pick? Cliff was an obvious choice but the other... It would make sense to pick Shard. She was my clawmate and my friend but for some reason I had an urge to pick Sandstorm instead. She was always so serious, even if she had a sense of humor. It would be good for her to enjoy herself, loosen up a little. But what would Cliff say if I picked her instead of Apricot? They were such good friends and that felt the same amount of right as inviting Sandstorm would be. I shook my head. I had the whole of today and tomorrow to decide; no rush. I walked over to Cliff, shaking him to tell him to get ready for school and ten minutes later me and the half winglet were on the way to Geography. I had time to think about this. No rush.

Chapter 11: Day 6

[image]

It was an a few hours till the celebration and I still hadn't decided. I sighed and Fatespeaker turned to me, putting a claw to her muzzle. I narrowed my eyes, glaring at her back when she turned to pile scrolls on Starflight's desk. I looked back at the scroll in my talons: *A History On Skywings.* It was a whole lot more boring then I had expected.

'Right, you guys can go now.' Starflight announced, signaling the end of the school day. I got to my claws swiftly, trotting over to Cliff. He was the one dragon I was sure about inviting and he could also probably help me decide on who else to bring.

'Psst. Cliff.' I murmured, eyeing him.

'What's wrong? Why are you whispering?' The prince murmured back, glancing at me quickly.

'I have to tell you something.' I replied, looking at my talons as though there was a thorn suck in one of my pads.

'Ok, we're going to the Prey Center now anyways, you won't need to whisper there.' Cliff said, turning back to Apricot on his left side and resuming his chat with her. The Prey Center, that could work. I wonder who else was going to the celebration? Were Mite and Longsight coming? I hoped so. We trotted down the hallway, our winglet chatting amongst ourselves. Sandstorm stood a way away, scanning the scroll she had taken out of the library in a rush to finish studying by the end of the day. I padded over to her, curling my tail back nervously.

'Hey Storm.' I said as she jumped back.

'Not now Timeturner! I'm busy!' I looked at my talons. Why had I expected anything else? I walked away over to Beach as she called over to me.

'No Time! Wait, I'm sorry!' But I ignored her; if she wanted to be like that so be it. I had other friends, I didn't need her anymore. I turned around to look at her again but she was gone, her tail disappearing behind a bend in the hallway a far behind us. Maybe I shouldn't have been so harsh, she was obviously going through a lot. Great. Now I felt guilty. I shook my head, trying to clear the emotions stampeding through it.

The passage began to widen and I could hear loud whispers echoing from the Prey Center. Probably gossiping about the oncoming party, I guessed. When we entered however it was not what I had expected. Groups of three dragonets had separated from their winglets, gossiping in corners or shooting questioning looks at other dragonets around the room. The bits and pieces left of the winglets had gone to all stand together, arguing about what was going on in hushed voices. Our winglet however was the only one to stick together; catching or retrieving fruit from the pile, sitting down together to talk and sharing pieces of fruit that tasted better than others.

I felt a prickly sense on the back of my neck and turned to see Mite waving at me quizzically. I nodded in reply and he turned to Longsight, whispering excitedly. No doubt telling him that I too was going to the celebration. That brought me to thinking: why was there a celebration? There didn't seem to be much to celebrate if you asked me, though I had nothing against the party, it just didn't sound practical if there was no point. And who was this mysterious host? I glanced around the Prey Center, pretending to be looking for a good, live piece of prey. It was hard to tell; you couldn't see half of the dragonets faces because they were so busy whispering in each others ears about their new secret. I also couldn't come to understand why the host would invite dragonets he or she possibly didn't even know! Where was the point in that? And why only three dragonets from each winglet? No, I could answer that one. The host didn't want it to be too crowded in case it became too obvious. But then couldn't the host just invite dragons they knew instead of all these random ones?

My train of thought was interrupted as Cliff beckoned to me, no doubt wanting to know what I wanted to say. I stumbled over to

him, tripping on my tail as I got up and knocking my broken leg against a stalagmite, this involved a lot of screaming at myself as quietly as I could, but I eventually made it over to the Prince.

'What did you want to tell me earlier?' He asked, looking around warily for anyone that could be eavesdropping.

'Cliff, there is going to be a celebration tonight; there was a scroll left outside yesterday morning saying so!' I said, sitting down with a thump and righting my back leg so it was in a comfortable position.

'Really? Why didn't you tell me this earlier?' He asked calmly, glancing over at the small groups surrounding us with suspicion.

'I wasn't sure whether to pick you. The scroll was very specific on who to bring, only two friends. So that is you and... I haven't picked the other yet.'

'Wait, when is the celebration?' He asked and I could practically feel his mind racing with excitement.

'Tonight, just as the sun begins to lower.' I replied, curling my tail beside me so it didn't get stepped on.

'Who else will you pick? Apricot?' The prince asked hopefully, looking behind me and the yellow Rainwing.

'I'm not sure, I wanted you to help me decide.' I said, Cliff turning his amber gaze back to me.

'You don't want to pick her, do you?' He asked without a hint of anger.

'I do- its just... I feel like I need to repay Shard, need to show her something fun because she seems so... timid. But at the same time I want you to have Apricot with you because you are such good friends and would have a great time.' I replied, knocking Sandstorm off my mind guiltily. Cliff nodded understandingly, his horn ring glinting in the light from the outside world.

'It's ok, pick Shard. I understand. Plus, I think Apricot would find a way to sneak along anyways, whether she knew, been invited or

even was hated by the host, she would probably find a way.' Cliff replied, getting to his feet.

'Right. Let's go tell them then. Quick, while Belch have moved away.' The prince shuffled over to the rest of the winglet. Belch was the nickname we had given Beach and Squelch. It was much easier to call them that then say both of their names separately, especially since they were always together. I followed along behind him and watched as he told the girls, silently praying that we wouldn't be caught by the Founders. Who knew what they would do if they find out about the party? If they found the host, would he or she be kicked out of the school? Or severely punished? The questions swarmed around my head as we headed back to our dorms to prepare. Was this party headed for disaster? Who was this mysterious host and why was there a party in the first place? Who else would be coming? And most important of all: what would Sandstorm think if she found out?

Chapter 12: Day 6

[image]

We had left Belch behind; we decided that they would be fine without us. Apricot and Shard had reacted like opposites when told Cliff about the party and had headed off whispering excitedly.

~Flashback~

'OH. MY. GOSH. REALLY!? AND YOU CHOSE ME? AW. THANKS! WOW! I CANT BELIEV-'

'Oh... really? Are you sure he picked me? I mean...'

See the difference? Cliff and I were now in our dorms trying, in panic, to find something that looked nice. Well, I was panicking. He was trying.

'Hey, Time. I have these?' Cliff held out a pair of gold Earring's that I instantly declined. NO WAY was I wearing earing's! NOT NOW NOT EVER! I shook my head fiercely.

'Sorry Cliff. Do you have any...' I cut off as Cliff held out four silver bracelets, each with a small amber gemstone embedded within.

'Those are perfect! Thanks Cliff, your a life saver.' I said, slipping them onto my wrists and back legs. I couldn't get one over my leg cast so I unraveled it slowly, sliding the bracelet onto my broken leg gently.

I glanced at Cliff, blinking rapidly. He looked... amazing. His scales were shiny and smooth, reflecting light beautifully. He had taken off his golden chainmail, replacing it with a necklace with a small, dragon charm placed at the bottom. On one of his horns he had replaced the silver horn ring with a band matching the silver on his necklace. He grinned at me, his white teeth shining. I blinked again.

'You look nice too.' He said, walking up to me and tapping me on the snout. I shook my head, clearing him from my vision.

'You look better.' I replied, gathering a bag that I had stuffed all my important DONT LEAVE BEHIND OR ELSE stuff into. I picked up the earrings that had been discarded to the floor.

'Hey, Cliff. Mind if I keep these?' I asked smoothly.

'Er- sure. They are my sisters... she has lots though. Keep it.' The prince replied, he too had a satchel around his waist and he tightened it so it wouldn't fall off.

'And you should see your reflection, then you can say who looks better.' He finished, beginning to walk out the dorm. I was tempted to turn around and look but instead I followed him out, the earrings tingling in the pouch around my neck. I touched it subconsciously, thinking about what on earth I was going to do when I got there. The nerve of what we were doing finally got to me and I took a deep breath. We would be fine. It was just a party, nothing 'bad' would happen. I worried too much! It was time to relax.

Chapter 13: Day 6

[image]

We walked up the narrow passageway, our wings connected nervously. Cliff and I were on our way to the entrance tunnel; from there we could fly to the peak as well as be able to see any incoming dragons. I fidgeted anxiously as we walked, wondering if Shard and Apricot were ok. We had agreed that we would meet up at the party yet I still couldn't help but worry if they were safe. I wondered if Sandstorm was at the dorm with them, or if she was somewhere else. I hope she was safe too. TIMTURNER! STOP WORRYING! I yelled at myself in my head.

'Time?' I turned to Cliff as he spoke.

'We're here.' I looked up at the entrance cave where my parents had dropped me off several days ago. I hesitated for a moment, wondering if we were doing the right thing. No, of course we weren't doing the right thing! But it was worth it. I stepped after Cliff, spreading my wings and leaping after him and outside. We looked up at the imposing peak, I couldn't see anything from here which was good because it meant that the party was well disguised. Or the founders had found it and taken it down... I shook my head. NO WORRYING ALLOWED TIMETURNER! I focused on the peak as we flew, not wanting to look at how high we were flying.

'You ok?' Cliff asked, peering at me.

'Nope! I mean- yes.' I replied, beating my wings harder to catch up. Why was he so FLIPPING FAST?

'I'm worried too you know.' He said as I snorted.

'What? I am!' He said, smiling at my slyly.

'No your not! I can tell.' I replied bumping into him happily.

'Oh ya?' He replied, speeding up and zooming towards the western

peak. AGH! HOW WAS HE SO FAST?

'WAIT FOR ME!' I cried, pumping my wings harder. My lungs screamed at me but I kept going. The peak was nearer now and I could see a small ledge poking around the rim. Perfect to hide the party but still giving the participants a beautiful view. Cliff disappeared over the top, his red scales taken over by bare rock. I flung myself over the top after him, panting as my lungs gasped for air. I lay on the floor for a bit. When I finally looked up Cliff and a large Seawing were staring at me with large grins on their faces.

'Oh cover those teeth!' I said, scrambling up.

'What teeth?' Cliff said, instantly making a silly face at me. I wrinkled my snout at him.

'Do you have your invite?' Asked the Seawing. I looked around, the ledge continued around the peak but there was a cave too. I guessed that was the tunnel to the real party because I could hear music on the other side.

'Yup! There are a Rainwing and a Icewing coming too, they will be here later on.' I said, pulling out the scroll with the messy handwriting and handing it over to the webbed talons.

'You may pass.' He said, stepping away from the doorway and indicating for us to enter.

'Thanks Pike!' Cliff said, nodding at him before walking in. How on earth did he know a random Seawing? Pike nodded back, turning back to his post as we walked in. The passage was lit up by a line of Firefly Lamps and small glowworms which crawled up the wall sneakily. The floor was damp and I guessed it flooded quiet easily. The tunnel mist have been coming to an end because a light had popped up a few yards away. Cliff sped up, sprinting across the tunnel.

'Come on! We're almost there!' He cried, nudging me excitedly as I followed. Even I couldn't hide my excitement and I bounded along behind him, lifting my sore leg just off the floor.

We burst through the light, skidding to a stop in front of a large party. Small stalagmites dotted the ledge, their tips softened down to make a flat surface for a table. Food was dotted everywhere, on plates, running around, in the sky held by nets. Everywhere. There were already three half winglets here, chatting with friends and drinking water from glasses. Music blared in the background and I saw there was a band in the corner, made of students. As I watched one holding a guitar put it down, walking away to talk to a friend as a Sandwing zoomed in to take his place.

'Wow.' Cliff stared, open-mouthed.

'Ya.' I replied, already walking to an empty table and claiming it by plopping my satchel down on it. I sat down at the table while Cliff zoomed away, over to a group of Skywings. They greeted him happily, smiling and enveloping him in their wings. I looked closer at the band and saw Mite on the drums, bobbing his head to the beat. Longsight didn't stand far away, dancing around with a small Nightwing, she had hardly any white scales and her claws were long and curved.

'Timeturner!' Longsight called over to me, beckoning. I bounded over, loosening my wings. No more pressure, just fun.

'This is Sharpclaws, Sharpclaws this is Timeturner.' Sight said, putting a wing around me. I could hardly believe this was the same, stuttery Nightwing from a few days ago. He guided me to Mite as Sharpclaws nodded at me.

'You want a turn? Mite asked as I nodded, overwhelmed at how much was happening.

'Go ahead; try em out!' Called Mite as he jumped over with Longsight and Sharpclaws, dancing along. I looked at the drums. I had never played before, I didn't even know why I had accepted. I tapped ne experimentally with my tail and it thrummed around the area quietly. I listened to the music around me, tapping the drum with my tail to stay on beat. The world disappeared around me as I began tapping drums with my front legs. There was just music... music that I would listen to forever. All my worries were beat away with each thump, happiness swarming around me. And I was

playing! My body moved like it wasn't mine, moving as if on its own. I felt like the music was inside me. The music *was* me. I bobbed my head, swaying along with the beat.

'Wow! I didn't know you could play that well!' Called Cliff from by the Skywings.

'I didn't know I could play at all!' I called back, laughing. Then Cliff stopped talking to the Skywings around him. He was staring at the tunnel that Pike guarded. I stopped playin g instantly. Had the Founders found us? We were in so much trouble! All the worries came swarming back, buzzing around my head like wasps. Then a silver veiled body walked in, her eyes shining. Her tail flickered across the floor as she walked in and I glimpsed a blue scar underneath the veil hiding her face. Shard. Not soon after Apricot waltzed in behind her. She worse chains of lilies around her neck and a purple veil to match. Both dragons had long pieces of fabric entwined through their wings, tails and necks. Making them look like pieces of artwork, beautiful and unique.

'Apricot?' Cliff said, staring.

'Yes Prince Cliff?' She replied, makin her tone a bit higher to sound more important.

'Oh I'm sorry you majesty.' Cliff lay low, a fake bow to a fake Queen.

'Oh, such manners.' The Rainwing said, lifting her chin but smiling down at the Skywing. He grinned back, rising to stand. He was a head-height taller than her and looked down to see her. He began introducing her to his Skywing friends. Meanwhile, Shard had walked away to sit at a low table by herself, scanning the crowd hopefully. I nodded to Mite.

'Be right back.' I slithered off, hiding behind large Mudwings to stay put of Shards sight. I snuck around behind her, getting ready to pounce.

'Boo!' I jumped up from behind her, baring my fangs and flapping my wings. Shard fell down, covering her head with her wings.

'Please don't-' She peeped through her wings at the hybrid before her 'Time?' She asked, lowering her wings slowly; still wary of me.

'That is I!' I replied, thumping down beside her.

'WHY DID YOU DO THAT!' She cried, shoving me with her speckled wing but having no effect.

'Eh. It was funny.' I replied, keeping our wings together.

'IT WAS NOT!' She said, grinning at me.

'Well- maybe a little...' She gave in, looking at me shyly.

'Hey, can I show you something?' I asked, darting back to my feet and reaching out an arm to help her up.

'Sure.' She said, taking it. I lifted her up and shivered at how cold her scales were. She righted one of her veils before following me, glancing around nervously.

'Here, check it out! A drumming set!' I said, grinning like a monkey on sugar rush.

'Um.. cool?' She said.

'No wait, look! Can you dance?' I asked as I installed myself behind the vacated drums.

'I don't know. I've never tried it before.' She said shyly, looking up at me. She was smaller than Apricot, I realized. Even though Apricot was younger. She smiled up at me nervously. I tapped my tail on the drum, starting the next song as the dragonets around me began to play. Then I added in the bigger drum, the small one, all three, until the song was blazing out over the audience. I was lost again in the music as Shard began to dance. Twirling and spinning around and around me, closing her eyes in bliss. Mite winked at me staring at Shard and I stuck my tongue out at him, Sandstorm's trick. Sandstorm. I felt bad again. I should have taken her with. She would be crushed to find out I had picked Shard instead. Why had I been so stupid and selfish? I stopped drumming, giving an apologetic look at Shard before darting into the air. I flew up and

up into the clouds surrounding the western peak of Jade Mountain. Then I dived, the wind whistled past my ears as I spiraled downwards. I had to fetch Sandstorm. She deserved this, not me. She deserved to enjoy herself for once and I had taken it away from her. The host would just have to survive with five dragonets from Jade Winglet because I wasn't going to change my mind anytime soon.

LOL That was a long chapter. I would write more but I think I should rather start a new chapter. Hope you like it!

Chapter 14: Day 6

[image]

WARNING! SAD CHAPTER YOUR FAVORITE CANON CHARACTER MAY DIE!

I walked down the passage, glancing warily around me for the Founders. They were probably asleep by now, that's what I told myself anyways. The sun had disappeared beyond the horizon and the three moons lay in the sky, two full and one waning.

When I came to the the place where the paths split I went left, to the girls dormitories. From what I could hear everyone was asleep except from the small rustle that indicated that they were reading. I heard murmuring up ahead and jumped into a dorm to hide, crouching down and covering my head wing my wings to disguise myself. The voices slowly moved away as a Skywing, Sandwing and a bright Rainwing past, probably on their way the the celebration, I guessed. I got to my talons, moving back to the entrance to the dorm when I though it was safe enough. I heard a gasp behind me and spun around, my eyes widened. A 2 year old Sandwing dragonet watched me with large eyes, blinking them rapidly.

'Shh.' I said, hoping she wouldn't call out. I could not afford to be captured because of a young dragonet! It lifted its snout and I braced myself for the scream- but it just yawned, laying back down to sleep. I breathed out in relief. Come on Timeturner, you have to fine Storm's dorm!

I hurried along the stone floor, the way my talons scraped across it reminded me of my first day, late. Now all I needed to do was bump into Sandstorm, which was actually what I wanted. I skidded to a stop in front of a small dorm, seeing familiar pale scales. I walked quietly inside, glancing around to try see if I could find the Sandwing. I spotted her in the corner, wrapped in a brown, ragged blanket and reading something on a scroll I couldn't make out. Her

face was turned away but I would recognize her scales anywhere.

'Sandstorm?' I whispered even though there was no one in the dorm other than her and I. She didn't look up, just stared at the scroll blankly.

'Storm?' I asked gently, walking lightly up to her. She turned her head and I saw tears welled in her eyes, she blinked at me before handing me the scroll and looking away again. I unrolled it, realizing this was a message, not homework. I flattened the scroll on the floor, beginning to read.

Sandstorm,

If you are reading this you father and I are gone. We tried to fight them but we couldn't win, I'm sorry. You won't be able to stay at the Scorpion Den any longer; the Rouges have destroyed it all. We wish we could have said goodbye properly but there was no time. This school was the safest place for you to be and I want you to keep coming here even though we are gone. Your older sister, Ostrich, has taken full permission to look after you at her house in the Sandwing palace. Your father and I love you very much,

Kindle.

'They are gone.' Sandstorm murmured, looking at the wall. 'I never got to say goodbye.' She turned around, tears rolling down her fire yellow cheeks.

'Storm... I had no idea...' I said, walking over to her hunched figure and letting the scroll fold back over itself.

'Six-claws- gone. Kindle- gone. Grain... gone.' She whispered, burying her head in my shoulder. Who was Grain? Her aunt? Uncle?

'She hadn't even hatched...' Sandstorms voice was muffled in my shoulder. Grain was... Grain was her little sister? Oh no.

'You still have Ostrich.' I said, trying to cheer her up but knowing that if this had happened to me nothing would cheer me up. She nodded bluntly, looking away.

'Storm, I know your upset but please, come with me. I can take you to your friends, your winglet. We will help you get through this.' I pleaded, knowing where her train of thought was headed.

'Time-' She started.

'Don't. Don't say it. Please Storm, come with me.' I said, not wanting to give up.

'I have to go see it for myself. I'm sorry Time, I can't ignore what happened. Hey, maybe there's a mistake. I need to go see what has happened to the Scorpion Den. Please.' She asked, looking up at me with black eyes.

'Storm...' She looked at me with hurt, knowing what I would say next. 'Be careful.' I said, changing my mind. She blinked at me in surprise and gratitude, standing up wobbly.

'You have to come back again Storm. I hardly know you, I want to know you.' I said as she picked up her belongings, which I noticed wasn't many. I opened my talon to reveal the golden earrings, handing them to Sandstorm. When her talon touched mind sparks fizzed under my scales but then it was gone, the earrings taken with it. She opened her muzzle to reply, already at the doorway.

'I'm sorry.' Then she was gone.

Sorry! Sorry very very sorry! Yes, its the canon family that died. Please don't kill meh for this!

Chapter 15: Day 6

[image]

Queen Coral be like: (Picture above)

I walked back to the Entrance hall, my wings drooping. I should have taken her to the party in the first place. Now she was gone and probably not even coming back. Her family... one day alive the next dead. What would she do when she got home and found it in ruins? Would she go back to her sister, Ostrich? Or would she come back to Jade Winglet and the academy?

I jumped into the air, knowing there was no point moping about the school when I had to tell Cliff, Apricot and Shard about Sandstorm anyways. I flew up to the western peak, ignoring my beating chest and lungs. I landed on the platform, walking past a confused looking Pike and heading through the tunnel.

'Time? Is that you?' An Icewing stood at the end of the passageway, the light from the moons making her shine but casting a deadly shadow in front of her. I was about to reply when a strange feeling hit me. The ground around me began to sway, or was I swaying? Shards shadow became bigger, teeth growing large in its mouth, blood dripping from its talons as it swiped around it. But no, that wasn't Shard. Shard was over there, leaping into the air and trying to escape. No, not escape. She was... she was chasing someone else. The vision dimmed, blurring my view and shaking the dragons faces. I squinted. No! It couldn't end now; I needed to know more! But the vision was gone, Shards shadow and the fleeing dragons leaving a stain on my memory, beside all the others.

'Timeturner? Timeturner?' Shard stood before me, holding me up in white wings.

'Why do you keep doing this? Oh, Time!' She cried, nudging me with cold talons. I blinked, my eyes refocusing. Her tail was resting over mine, her white wings wrapped around black.

'Shard, I'm ok. It's fine.' I said, sitting up and rubbing my head. Now she watched me with suspicion as her wariness and worry left her mind.

'Time, what was that?' She asked, putting a wing under mine and lifting me back onto my feet. I may as well tell the truth, not that she would believe me.

'That, was a vision.' I said shakily, my voice still steadying.

'No, not that. You whispered something.' Shard said, sitting back down on her haunches.

'I- I did?' I asked. Now that I came to think of it... I did remember the words to go with the prophecy... Didn't it go something like:

'As the winter slowly thaws,

its prized possession will take its place seeing its own teeth and claws,

A golden night filled with shining stars will take place,

revealing the dark, listening face,

of which can change all sides.

A dark enemy will arise,

filled with hatred and despise,

beware the one he seeks,

beware of how he can treat.

The day will be a snowstorm and forlorn,

and the dragon will be pulled and torn,

between longing love and hated rich,

undivided loyalty and stealing selfishness,

for his fate can change all others.'

'Was that it?' I asked, my voice returning back to normal as I looked back at Shard. She nodded vigorously, too afraid to speak. What was that anyways? I never got prophecy powers. Never got any powers on that point. But then what explained this vision? And the other one too, I thought back to that horrible dream **(Chapter 3)** and the dragonet disappearing forever. Could they be linked somehow?

'Do not. E-ever do that again.' Shard managed to stutter eventually, staring at me as if I would just randomly have another vision. I nodded. I didn't actually want to either. Just then Cliff and Apricot entered, rushing over as soon as they saw us sitting in the tunnel.

'Er, hope you don't mind me asking but uh. What are you guys doing?' Cliff asked, tilting his head to the side the way he always does when he's puzzled about something.

'Nothing!' I said as Shard squeaked at the same time: 'Having a vision!' I sighed, there was no hiding this now.

'Really?' Cliff looked at me, raising an eyebrow. Oh well. I may as well tell the truth now that he Shard had already told him half of it.

'Yes, I did. I also... er... there was also a prophecy.' I muttered, looking at my claws again

'A prophecy? Like, where it is all CRYPTIC and YOU HAVE TO SOLVE IT and it's REALLY DANGEROUS BUT COMPLETELY AWESOME? That sort of prophecy?' Cried Apricot in excitement.

'Er... yes?' I replied. She let out a high pitched squeal before getting really close to my face, which I didn't appreciate, and said:

'Tell me it. I MUST HEAR IT!' I lowered my ears, her voice echoing around in my head for a moment.

'Not again.' Shard murmured, covering her head with her wings and peeking out from a mall sliver of space between them. Cliff just watched in silent amazement, nodding at me to start talking. Ugh. I didn't want to have to do this every time someone found out about

it. It made my scales feel like they were being peeled off by ants. Very vicious fire breathing ants that have sharp fangs and poison and... and eight legs! I recalled the prophecy before repeating it, hopefully for the last time, and rolling my eyes as the Skywing and Rainwing gaped at me like some sort of beached fish.

'What? It's a prophecy. It's not like those aren't common anymore.' I said calmly, trying to take hold of the situation.

'A MOON BLASTED PROPHECY! ARE YOU FLIPPING KIDDING ME!?' Tsunami emerged from the shadows, a flabbergasted Pike following. We all nodded, looking at our talons. Tsunami glared at us before stomping on towards the party. I shared an anxious look with Cliff before jumping after her. Before we got to the end of the tunnel I heard singing. but not the singing they were doing earlier. I pricked my ears, listening. Oh wait. OH MOONS WAIT. THIS WAS WHAT THE CELEBRATION WAS FOR?

'WHAT ARE YOU DOING!' Tsunami burst onto the pavilion, glaring at the dragonets stopping their singing.

'Tsunammiiiiii.' Cried Auklet, growling at her sister.

'Auklet? AUKLET! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH STRANGERS?' Tsunami cried before murmuring 'Mothers gonna kill me.' In a voice only I could hear.

'It was my HATCHING DAY PARTY. Until you RUINED IT!' Cried Auklet.

'Oh.' Tsunami said, glancing around at the gathered dragons staring at her with those loud noise things hanging out of their mouths mid cheer.

'Er.' The Seawing went bright red. 'Carry on then!' She bolted back into the tunnel, her scales flashing mutinously. I smiled at the dragons around me as they began to stare at us.

'You heard the Princess! Get partying!' Cliff yelled, throwing his wings up to cheer. Everyone slowly went back to the celebration, Auklet blowing out the candles and stuffing her face with cake.

Yes so um. Prophecy. Er- yeas. This may be my last chap for this week as tomorrow I will be leaving to go camping and, unfortunately unable to bring a device along with me. While I may be able to fit it in tomorrow morning, don't get your hopes up =(

Anyways, Bye! =3

Chapter 16: Day 7

[image]

Ello ppl I'm back! I have been REUNITED with my laptop and am ready to do some WRITING!

I yawned, spreading my wings out and over the ledge and sighing to myself. Another day of school. Hooray. I got to my talons, shaking them a little to wake them up before zombie-walking over to Cliff.

'Come on Cliff, school. Remember?' I groaned, poking him with a black claw. He was up in an instant, packing his bags and pretty much ignoring me. I sighed again, turning to look around the dorm. Squelch wasn't sleeping nor was he standing and getting ready. I glanced at the pool in the corner and realized the Beach was also gone, wet footprints leading out of the dorm. They had probably gone to school early, or maybe they were in the art or music cave. Either way, they weren't leaving the school, probably never coming back, while a horrible, disgusting prophecy showed its face. Like Sandstorm did. Cliff and I padded out of the cave, walking along the corridor to the history cave. Today their lesson was with Webs, the ex-egg stealer.

'Good morning!' He called as we walked in, his stripes flashing some other message that I didn't understand.

'Morning.' Cliff and I said in unison, each sitting down on a plump cushion beside Webs. A few minutes later the rest of the winglet arrived, well, most of it. Apricot bounded over to Cliff, bumping wings with him happily and sitting on a cushion next to him. Shard walked over more unsurely, eventually deciding to sit on the pillow beside me.

'Hi.' She whispered to me, trying to bump my wing like Apricot did with Cliff but missing by an inch and flopping over awkwardly. I offered my wing to her, moving it closer, and she smiled at me while bumping my wing with her own. I wish Sandstorm were here,

she would find a way to make this fun. What would she do? What was she doing now? Was her family really dead? A ripple of questions bumped off around the thought of Sandstorm and I shook my head, trying to focus.

'Hello everyone! It appears Squelch and... oh what is his name...' Webs muttered, narrowing his eyes thoughtfully.

'Beach.' Apricot filled in helpfully.

'Ah yes, Beach, are not here today.' Webs said in his droning voice, continuing as if he knew what Apricot had just told him.

((Lol, I imagined Webs as an older dragon to be like this ^.^))

'Now, why did the Sandwing War of Succession begin?' Webs asked, starting the lesson as the third bell rang. Was it just me or was this the first time I wasn't late? Apricot popped her hand up instantly.

'Yes Apricot?' Webs asked, turning to her.

'It started because.... because... everyone wanted a papaya!' She cried, thinking she had figured it out and turning a purple shade of pride.

'Er... no. Cliff?' Webs turned to the Skywing's raised talon.

'It started when scavengers killed Queen Oasis.' He said, looking at Apricot with a friendly smirk before turning to Webs.

'Correct! Now, can anyone remember how many successors there were and their names?' The Seawing continued in his drone of a voice. Shard raised her hand nervously. Webs nodded for her to speak.

'Three sisters: Blister, Blaze and Burn.' She said, curling her wings more tightly around herself.

'I think.' She finished.

'That is correct Ms. Shard!' Webs said, flashing his scales happily at the fact that this winglet wasn't a total failure.

'Timeturner,' I looked up, surprised he had picked me 'What were the allies of the three sisters?'

'Um.' I ran through the Queens in my head; I knew this one. 'Blister allied with the Seawings... Burn was allied with most of the some of the Sandwings as well as the Mudwings and Skywings and Blaze was allied with most of the Sandwings and all the Icewings.' I finished, recalling the information from the bottom of my memory.

'Very good! Now-' He was cut off as Tsunami waltzed into the room, a winglet following behind.

'Right! Hunting lesson now with the Copper Winglet!' The light blue Seawing said, smiling evilly at Webs before sweeping aside to let the other winglet through.

'B-but-' Webs started.

'Shh! I am the lead founder of the school! THERFORE I can decide to stop a boring History lesson when I want to!' Tsunami said. Apricot jumped to her feet excitedly, pulling Cliff along with her.

'I actually kind of like history...' Shard started but trailed off as the rest of the winglet and Tsunami glared at her.

'Now! Follow me!' Tsunami cried, bounding back out of the cave and into the tunnel that led to the Entrance Hall. I followed as Webs looked sadly at his scrolls piled on his desk.

'Best sister ever!' I heard Auklet cry from the other winglet. Ah. So this was what the early hunting was for: Tsunami was trying to apologize for interrupting Auklet's party yesterday night. As we walked I scanned the Copper Winglet for any faces I may recognize. I went through their names in my head as I scanned each one:

Froggy, the Mudwing. I remembered him being mentioned at one point.

A Skywing I guessed must be Amber.

Auklet, of course.

Princess Firefly, Queen Glory's daughter.

A Nightwing and a Sandwing I didn't recognize and finally... the Icewing.

Fox.

I jumped behind Cliff, peeking from behind his large wings at the Icewing. She looked... tired. Sad. I felt a pang of sympathy for her; losing your best friend, you mate, to your own Frostbreath... It must have been hard. I realized. Then she was looking around and I saw her gaze settle on Shard who was looking at her claws near the back of the line. I saw Foxes eyes narrow greedily in a way that suggested Shard wasn't very safe. I backed up along the line, coming to rest beside my Clawmate and glaring back at Fox. She blinked, turning back to the front and whispering to Amber, the Skywing from the Copper Winglet. Hate us all she wanted, I wouldn't let harm come to me and my clawmate again.

The End!

[image]

THE END!!

Of book one. =3

No worries, I will be starting the next book in the next month or so as well as fixing up this one. However, if you are also a Warrior Cat fan look no further! For I, Starcatcher, have decided to write a, you will never be able to guess, STORY on Warrior Cats! SO you don't have to cry in bed, as I usually do when the next book hasn't come out, but you can instead read the preview of a new Warrior Cats book! Yayyy -Fake crowd cheer- I will only publish the whole of the Warrior Cats book later on, so you only get to see the preview.

-malicious laugh, strokes evil cat and spins round in a spinning chair-

[image]

^.^

Anyways, the preview will be on the next chapter!

'A Jaguars Love' Preview

Ewo, 'A Jaguars Love' is the first book in a Warrior Cats fanfiction series, The Forbidden. NO STEALING! This is the preview:

Paws padded under the canopy, soft and nimble as they guided their owner. A tail swished along the short stems of grass, catching on small brambles lying in wait on either side of the guideline. The cat continued walking along the path through the leafless trees until they dispersed, leaving the feline at the base of a large mound of soil and rock. The slope. The grass didn't even try to grow here. She skimmed past that path, padding around the base of the hill until she found the path that led down parallel to the slope. Taking a deep breath she stepped onto the new pathway, glancing around nervously at the rarely used path. Her sharp nose picked up the smell of fresh water and her ears responded immediately as they heard the quiet rush of a stream nearing. The cat pushed through the foliage that separated her from the stream, her tail flicking. There, that was it, she was sure.

The StarPool was a round, deep hole in the ground between the Foundations, the four mounds that slope up from each territory. Hardly looking at her surroundings, the cat approached the water lapping against the shore. She jumped over the stream flowing downriver behind her, glancing around quickly.

The Foundations stood, large and imposing, around her. Two jumps and she could be up one of those; they were only a few tail-lengths high. Turning her attention back to the pool, she walked forward. As she neared she found glowworms lay inside of the pool, sparkling. Another few steps and she realized that these were not glowworms, these were the stars. The cat turned her grey eyes to the shining balls of light above. She blinked slowly, taking in the knowledge of the lights as they glimmered down information

around her.

'Step into the pool, sink below the surface, there you will find your answer.' Moleshine's final words echoed through the cat's head as she approached the pool. He had died quickly, had hardly enough time to spit out the words before the loss of blood killed him. Shaking her head, the cat took a deep breath, and dipped a paw into the water. It tingled up her arm, it was like licking a star. She shuddered, padding into the water so all four of her paws were submerged. But the fur didn't stick to her skin, didn't droop as the water soaked it through. It was as though there was no liquid there at all. The cat took a deep breath, and plunged into the sparkling depths of the StarPool.

The star water swirled around her, changing forms beneath her. A field, lush and green. A vast expanse of water. A large tree. Then it stopped, and the cat plunged through the air. The air! Flailing around, the cat pinched her eyes closed, letting out a wail as she braced herself for impact on the hard earth.

'Your here.'

The cat opened her eyes sharply at the voice, her fur on end and tail tucked between her legs. The scenery had changed from the tree to a cave. A large, completely black cave. She found herself on solid rock and let out a calming breath.

'Wh- who are you?' The cat stuttered, blinking at the black world around her. A small spark ignited in the distance and the cat squinted. The light became larger and larger, coming closer and closer.

'A Memory.' The light gave a bright blink and the she-cat shut her eyes. Opening them again, she saw something completely different to a light in front of her.

'Moleshine!' The She-cat cried, running toward her mentor. He was no longer the hazel, nutty brown he once. He was... blue, the She-cat realized as she passed right through his image.

'Moleshine?' The She-cat questioned, turning around to find him beside her, his fur brushing against hers but not leaving any feeling. He looked

as though he were made of glass. Glass filled with water, the cat realized as the Tom licked her ear.

'As I said, a Memory.' The Tom repeated, stepping away from the She-cat.

'There is something you must know.' Moleshine said, locking his eyes with the She-cats'. His brow was furrowed and his eyes damp with worry. The She-cat listened intently to his words, wishing she could comfort him in some way, any way!

'No one else must know this.' The Tom said, glancing around at the cave walls surrounding them as if he was worried someone else was listening. The She-cat nodded, her eyes wide with curiosity and fear. The Tom's eyes glazed over with a white image and the She-cat felt herself sinking into the prophecy.

Three cat-shaped silhouettes stood before her, their eyes glowing with the same sheen as the Tom's. The cat poised in the middle crouched, tail flicking, and leapt into the air.

' A cat shall leap.'

T he ones on either side leapt up to join it, but one stumbled. It fell, hitting the floor with a soundless thump and disappearing under the dream.

'One will fall.' The other continued it's leap beside the first, stopping midair to look at the one sinking beneath the dream.

'O ne will fly.' A look of guilt, sadness and... misunderstanding, took over its face as it- the dream broke apart, the cats swirling away in oblivion and leaving the cat looking into her mentor's eyes once more.

'Moleshine-' The She-cat started, her eyes wide with the information now lying on her shoulders. Her mentor blinked at her with a look of sorrow and sadness, slowly fading away. She found herself wishing her mentor could stay with her, guide her through whatever this meant! Her heart ached for him in a way she didn't understand.

'Don't tell anyone...' His voice was quiet and far off and the She-cat had to strain to hear his final words.

'I love you Willowtree, I'll be waiting for you to join me.'

Then his image flickered out, leaving the She-cat gazing at her reflection in the Starpool. Willowtree gazed into the bottom of the pool, Moleshine's words echoing in her mind. What would she do? And.. how would she do it without him?

"I love you too." She whispered quietly.

There ya go! Da twailer! Now, go cry while I stroke my evil cat and write another story!

MUAHHAHAHAHAAHAHHAHHA -cough- HAHAHAHAHAH